

Application No.: 10/726222

Case No.: 58130US004

REMARKS

The Office Action dated April 22, 2005 has been received and reviewed. Claims 1-2 have been amended and claim 19 has been cancelled. The pending claims are claims 1-18 and 20-60 with claims 39-60 having been withdrawn from consideration. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the pending rejections are respectfully requested.

Claim Amendments

Claim 1 has been amended to substantially include all of the elements of dependent claim 19. Claim 1 has also been amended to recite a plurality of independently controllable LED dies. Support for this amendment may be found in the Specification, e.g., at page 7, lines 18-21. No new matter has been added.

Claim 2 has been amended to a plurality of optical waveguides. No new matter was added.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants acknowledge that claims 3, 10, and 14-38 were objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. In response, Applicants have amended claim 1 to substantially include all of the elements of objected to claim 19. As a result, Applicants submit that claims 1-18 and 20-38 are in allowable form.

The 35 U.S.C. § 102 Rejection

Claims 1-2, 4-9, and 11-13 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Hed (U.S. Patent No. 5,301,090). Applicants traverse this rejection.

However, to further move this case towards issuance, Applicants have amended claim 1 to substantially include all of the elements of objected to claim 19. As a result, Applicants submit that amended claim 1 is novel over Hed because Hed does not teach each and every element of amended claim 1.

Application No.: 10/726222

Case No.: 58130US004

Further, dependent claims 2, 4-9, and 11-13, which depend from claim 1, are also novel over Hed for the same reasons as presented above for claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are, therefore, respectfully requested.

Summary

Applicants respectfully submit that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of all rejections are respectfully requested. The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' Representatives, at the below-listed telephone number, if it is believed that prosecution of this application may be assisted thereby.

Date

By: _____

Jay R. Pralle, Reg. No.: 52,131
Telephone No.: (651) 733-6750

Office of Intellectual Property Counsel
3M Innovative Properties Company
Facsimile No.: 651-736-3833